(b) if so, what is the number of representations received by Government and other agencies; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Abaut 6 representations have been received by the Government.

(c) The request for electronic exchange at Vasco-de-gama could not be agreed by the Government because the project for installation of ICP type of exchange is in advanced stage of execution at present.

टेलीफोन निर्देशिकाओं की उपलब्धता

2622. **श्री विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल:** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि संसद सदस्यों को नई टेलीफान निर्देशिकाएं उपलब्ध करा दी गई हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो आम टेलीफोन उपभोक्ताओं को ये निर्देशिकाएं उपलब्ध करा दिये जाने की संभवना हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री गिरिधर गोमांगो) : (क) जी हां, ।

(ख) दिल्ली के दूसरे उपभोक्ताओं को नई टेलीफोन डायरेक्ट्री का वितरण पहले ही प्रारंभ किया जा चुका है ।

Hardships of Common Man in dealing with Government Officials

2629. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the hardships the commonman suffers at the hands of petty Government officials in his day to day dealings with them; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and of the programme initiated, if any, for proper orientation of Government servants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the hardship the common man suffers every now and then in his dealing with petty Government officials and is constantly striving to obviate it. Point 20 of the Twenty Point Programme—1986 aims at a more responsive administration. Towards this end, a large number of steps have been taken. Ministries and Departments of the Central Government, as well as agencies working within their jurisdiction, have taken steps for simplification of rules and procedures with a view to cutting-down avoidable delays and eliminating the scope of harassment for the common man, in making decisions and their implementation. These are also intended to demystify the processes of administration, particularly at the levels which interact directly with the citizen. They have also strengthened their machinery for redressal of public grievances. There is a Grievance Officer for every Ministry and Department. All these offices have a day in the week designated as a meetingless day when senior officers receive and attend to public grievances. Ministries and Departments have also been instructed to ensure that every officer deals with every issue in a fair, objective and just manner.

Work carried out by National Remote Sensing Agency

2624. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the basic nature of work carried out by National Remote Sensing Agency in Northern India, particularly in Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh; and

(b) what is the information available on the status of forst cover in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Hyderabad, under Department of Space is responsible for acquisition, processing and dissemination of satellite and aerial remote sensing data, training of users in various applications disciplines and conduct of resources survey using remote sensing techniques.

NRSA has carried out various remote sensing application projects pertaining to Northern India in different themes such as forestry, wasteland, surface water bodies, soil and soil salinity, geology, geomorphology, land use/land cover and hydrology. These projects covered various parts of northern states/UTs including Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh. In addition to the above aerial photographic surveys and scanner surveys were carried out for parts of Northern India.

The details of the studies carried out by NRSA particularly in Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh are given below:

PUNJAB:

- Forest mapping for the periods 1972 —'75 and 1980—'82 on 1:1M scale under the nation-wide forest mapping project using Landsat Multi Spectral Scanner (MSS) data.
- Wasteland mapping on 1:1M scale under the nationwide wasteland mapping project using Landsat MSS data.
- Surface water mapping on 1:1M scale derived from wasteland maps.
- Detailed wasteland mapping of critically affected districts on 1:50,000 scale under the National Wasteland Mapping project funded by National Wasteland Development Board with National Remote Sensing Agency as the coordinating agency. Landsat Thematic Mapper data of 1986-87 were used. The districts covered are Sangrur, Kapurthala and Bhatinda.
- Mapping of soil salinity/alkalinity using 1987-88 satellite data on 1:250,000 scale.
- Land use/cover mapping on 1:250,000 scale using digital analysis of Landsat, MSS data in parts of Punjab.

HARYANA:

- Forest mapping for the periods 1972 —'75 and 1980-'82 on 1:1M scale under the nation-wide forest mapping project using Landsat Multi Spectral Scanner (MSS) data.
- Wasteland mapping on 1:1M scale under the nationwide wasteland mapping project using Landsat MSS data.
- Surface water mapping on 1:1M scale derived from wasteland maps.
- Detailed wasteland mapping of critically affected districts on 1:50,000 scale under the National Wasteland Mapping project funded by National Wasteland Development Board with National Remote Sensing Agency as the coordinating agency. Landsat Thematic Mapper data of 1986-87 were used. The districts covered are Jhind, Karnal, Sirsa, Hissar and Gurgaon.
- Mapping of soil salinity/alkalinity using 1987-88 satellite data on 1 : 250,000 scale.
- Land use cover mapping on 1:250,000 scale using digital analysis of Landsat MSS data.
- Forecast of seasonal runoff of Sutlej into Bhakra reservoir on regular basis since 1980 using National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data. The forecastes have been within the acceptable limit of +10 per cent of the actual observed flows.

CHANDIGARH:

Remote Sensing surveys have been carried out under the nation wide forest and wasteland mapping.

Other Studies:

Under the S&T Project on "Operationalisation of NNRMS" ground water potential zone mapping of the above States/UTs are being carried out.

— In connection with the crop studies, aerial photographic surveys in colour infared film and scanner surveys have been done over parts of Punjab and Haryana during February, 1988. The data is being analysed by Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad in collaboration with Punjab and Haryana Agricultural Universities.

— At Present, agroclimatic zone-wise land use mapping at district level on 1:250,000 scale is being carried out for the entire country including the above States/UT.

— Integrated study to combat drought is being carried out for Bhiwani district in Haryana.

Besides the above, NRSA has been supplying remotely sensed data to the various organisations which carry out the remote sensing application projects in these States/UT.

(b) The National Remote Sensing Agency carried out the nationwide forest cover mapping using satellite imagery for the periods 1972—75 and 1980—82 on 1:1M scale. The Forest Survey of India (FSI) also had carried out similar studies for the period 1981—83. The results were jointly reviewed by the National Remote Sensing Agency and the Forest Survey of India. The forest cover information as derived from these studies for the Northern States/UT is given below :

State	Geographical Area sq. km	Total forests (excluding scrub area) sq. km	Total forest area as % of geographical area
Haryana	44,220	644	1.46
Punjab	50,360	766	1:52
Chandigarh	114	2	1.75
Jammu & Kashmir	222,240	20,880	9.4
Himachal Pradesh	55,670	12,882	23.14
Delhi	1,490	15	1.0
Uttar Pradesh	294,411	31,443	10.68

At present, the Forest Survey of India is carrying out on regular basis, biennial monitoring of vegetation cover in the country.

Scheme to Promote R and D in Electronics

2625. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been prepared to promote research and development in electronics for rural applications and for rural employment;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the areas being covered or planned to be covered under such a scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c) Government proposes to set up four new Electronics Research and Development Centres at Lucknow, Mohali,